**EXPOSITION TEXTS – INTRODUCTIONS and CONCLUSIONS)**

**Was the Melbourne Cup a Horse Race or Fashion Show?**

**Introduction**

**Was the Melbourne Cup a horse race or fashion show? More than 100,000 people sat crammed in the stands dressed for what? A fancy dress party. No, really! They were dressed in outrageously silly outfits, mad dresses, over decorated hats – what’s the point?**

**Conclusion**

**I think people should go to the Melbourne Cup not to show off that they’re rich enough or cool enough to buy tickets but for the horses, because without them there would be no Melbourne Cup.**

**Our Environment**

**Introduction**

**How can our environment be destroyed by just throwing rubbish on the grass? I can answer that. It can get sucked down a drain and flow out to sea or it can fly away to forests and all sorts of places where it can destroy our wildlife. The careless use of our oceans, beaches and waterways has an impact on many threatened species. However if we behave differently it can make a big difference. I am strongly against throwing rubbish around and harming fish and animals. Our planet is in trouble! Almost every day we hear of another problem. Oh and what a list, pollution, acid rain, global warming, the destruction of rain forests, and the extinction of plants, animals and fish.**

**Conclusion**

**You know it, I know it, everybody knows we need to recycle so our earth doesn’t get destroyed. If I can do it, you can do it too. Without earth we wouldn’t have natural resources, we wouldn’t have food and trust me, without nature’s providence we wouldn’t have anything. Not even a home. So let’s not just sit around, get up and help save our planet, we need all the help we can get. Save our planet, because without it, there will be no home.**

**Kiwi Schmiwi – Show the bird the door**

**Introduction**

**I believe that the kiwi should no longer be the national bird and icon of New Zealand. The kiwi is not an inspiring or charismatic bird. Firstly, it is flightless which indicates a terminal lack of energy. Secondly, the kiwi is shy which is reflected in its nocturnal lifestyle. Finally, the kiwi is an endangered species clearly showing that this bird is weak. Surely a more dynamic animal could better represent our country.**

**Conclusion**

**I believe it is vital that we change the national bird of New Zealand so that we send a strong and proud message about who we are to the rest of the world. A shy, flightless bird which is endangered, does not represent the spirit or people of New Zealand. I believe we should show the bird the door!**

**Stage Fright**

**Introduction**

**Have you ever experienced something called stage fright when you feel like a thousand pairs of eyes are looking and you forget what you’re going to say? Well, I believe that although many people suffer from stage fright and want to give up public speaking, it can be overcome. Firstly, let’s consider why people are nervous of speaking in public. Secondly, how does stage fright affect people’s lives? Finally, I’m will give you some tips on how to manage stage fright.**

**Conclusion**

**So just believe in yourself! Remember lots of people are nervous when public speaking. You’re never going to go far in your career if you let stage fright affect you! You can help yourself to control stage fright. You just have to believe that you can do it! So clearly, I believe we can all overcome stage fright.**

**Does money buy you happiness?**

**Introduction**

**Dough, ch-ching, green stuff, bucks. Whatever you call it, money makes the world go around. Some people say it buys you happiness. People donate it, people treat themselves and people waste it, but does all that actually make them happy?**

**Conclusion**

**All of these examples make me think; it isn’t how much money you have that makes you happy, rather it is what you do with it. Lets take a moment to consider two very different but very wealthy ladies. First Britney Spears. She was successful at a young age and has pots of money but now she is lonely and unhappy. Oprah Winfrey on the other hand, was poor and unhappy when she was little. Now she’s happy, successful and helps others, like when she started up a school in Africa.**

**So no, in my opinion money doesn’t buy you happiness. But it sure does help!**

**Finalist Y6 2007**

**Let’s Go Dotty**

**Introduction**

**I strongly support the Green Party recommendation that all packaged food have a clear and simple “traffic light” system of dots on packaging, green for go (healthy foods), orange for caution (eat in moderation), red for danger (eat a little). How would the use of coloured dots make a difference? Firstly, the current food labelling system often has ingredients listed in small print or in code so it is difficult to work out what is in the product. Secondly, there are now a wide range of foods to choose from and it is time consuming to select the healthy options. Finally, surveys show that many New Zealanders are becoming obese. The health of our nation is at risk!**

**Summary**

**I believe it is vital that the “traffic light” system of food labelling be introduced as soon as possible. Just think how quick and easy it would be to choose healthy food by using the dots. We could improve our health by making informed decisions when selecting food. Imagine what a positive and educational experience grocery shopping would become for the whole family. Let’s go dotty!**